

**BRAC PRESENTATION**  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2008; 7:00 P.M.**  
**NEW WINDSOR TOWN HALL**  
**NEW WINDSOR, NEW YORK**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Supervisor Green, Councilwoman Mullarkey, Councilwoman Weyant, Councilwoman Biasotti, Councilman Lundstrom

**OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Town Attorney Blythe, Comptroller Finnegan, Police Chief Biasotti, Highway Superintendent Fayon, Town Engineer McGoe

**SALUTE TO FLAG**

Supervisor Green welcomed everyone to the March Town Board meeting. For the first item of business the Town Board will be sitting as the Local Redevelopment Authority for the Base Reuse Plan and will present their Final Report and Recommendation for the United States Army Reserve Center at Stewart. Giving the actual presentation are Fred Doneit of Stuart Turner and Associates and Anthony Coppola of Coppola Associates. Also attending the meeting were Paul Oskvarek, BRAC Coordinator with the United States Department of Defense and Ravi Ajodah the Base Transition Coordinator for the United States Army. Supervisor Green thanked them both for their assistance during the entire process.

Mr. Doneit said that the Draft Report had been presented to the public at the February Town Board meeting and tonight's hearing is for the Final Recommendation of the Local Redevelopment Authority. The reason the process is taking place is that the Department of Defense intends to transfer to the Town of New Windsor two parcels totaling 16.1 acres together with the existing facilities on those parcels including the Army Reserve Center which is located on a portion of the southern parcel. The Plan has been available for viewing on the Town of New Windsor website and there have been a number of public information meetings held throughout the process. The Plan will eventually be incorporated into the Town of New Windsor's Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Doneit went over the timeline involved throughout the process and gave an overview of the contents of the Report. He concluded by saying that by March 31, 2008 the Final Reuse Plan will be presented to the United States Department of Defense. Mr. Coppola, the architect for the project, spoke about the current condition of the five existing buildings. Town Engineer Richard McGoe thanked Stuart Turner's office for all the work they got done in a relatively short period of time and he also thanked Paul Oskvarek and Ravi Ajodah for their assistance and input.

Supervisor Green then asked if anyone had any comments they would like to make.

Kirk Williams asked what would happen to the current Highway building on Route 300 if the Highway Department is relocated to Stewart and Supervisor Green said that hopefully the property would be sold. Mr. Williams went on to say that he thought this was a fantastic opportunity for the Town.

A resident asked if a requirement of the transfer process is that the Town take over the parcels and Supervisor Green said that was not a requirement, it is just part of the plan which has to be submitted to the DOD for their review and approval, the process is far from over. Paul Oskvarek said the only requirement of the process is the closure of the installation and the transfer of the division to another property.

Cathy Braun asked about the response time for the Police Department if they are moved to Stewart. Supervisor Green said that generally police officers respond from the road while on patrol, not from the station so the response time wouldn't change and actually the Stewart location is a little more centrally located than their current building. The Police Department just received a grant for installation of computers in police vehicles which can issue tickets allowing officers to spend less time at the station and more time on patrol. Chief Biasotti reminded everyone that for many years the Police Department was located at Stewart Airport.

Leo Braun asked what would happen to the vacated offices if the police are relocated and would it be possible for the Town Historian to get a new office. Supervisor Green said that after the Police Department has moved, more storage would be available, departments that are sharing offices or employees without offices would be able to be accommodated.

Supervisor Green said that when the addition was built in 1991 everyone thought there would be more than enough room for years to come, however due to the growth of the Town together with equipment and storage requirements, the building is rapidly being outgrown. At some point some solution would have to be found for additional space and the building acquisition seems to be the best option.

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A resident asked if other options have been considered as opposed to taking over the buildings at Stewart. Supervisor Green said so far nothing has been looked at that is as cost effective as this plan. He also said there is no guarantee that we are going to obtain it, we have only applied. The resident said this is certainly an opportunity but is concerned about the cost and wondered whether it is the right move. Supervisor Green said it was certainly the cheapest move if you are talking about a building's square footage. We have applied for a public benefit transfer for the Army Reserve Center which is hopefully a no-cost transfer.

Kirk Williams said selling current Highway Garage property would be putting prime real estate back on the tax rolls and he said the Town recently borrowed a large sum of money to repair the Highway Garage. The Supervisor said the borrowed money was for the remediation of the oil spill located there, not for general building repairs.

A resident suggested that instead of creating a building for the police department, a building could be created for storage at less cost. Supervisor Green said that there are still many things to explore. Chief Biasotti said a large portion of the cost involved in renovating a building for use by a police department is due to the requirements of Department of Justice and other regulatory agencies, so it would not matter if an older building were renovated or a new building built, it would still have to meet requirements for use by a police agency. Supervisor Green also added that this would not be done overnight, renovations would be done as funds became available and as the Town felt it could afford to do the work.

Diane Newlander asked about the cost of the proposed renovations and where the money would be coming from. Supervisor Green said they are estimated to be \$2.9 million and a portion of the money would come from grants available because it would be for a police station and possible police academy. He said that the Town has not received this property, it is only a plan and we are not committed to anything.

**MOTION: CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING OF LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Motion by Councilwoman Mullarkey, seconded by Councilwoman Weyant that the Town Board of the Town of New Windsor close the Public Hearing of the Local Redevelopment Authority regarding the Base Reuse Plan at 7:25 p.m.

*Roll Call: All Ayes*

*Motion Carried: 5-0*

**MOTION: ADOPT FINAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY – BRAC**

Motion by Councilwoman Mullarkey, seconded by Councilwoman Weyant that the Town Board of the Town of New Windsor adopt the attached Final Report & Recommendations of the Local Redevelopment Authority for the Stewart United States Army Reserve Center (BRAC) and directs the Town Supervisor to submit the Final Reuse Plan to the Department of Defense or other related governmental agencies.

*Roll Call: All Ayes*

*Motion Carried: 5-0*

Hearing no one else wishing to comment, Supervisor Green adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

DEBORAH GREEN  
TOWN CLERK

/clc